### In this week's Kukini



■ Gen Arthur J. Lichte, the Air Mobility Commander, visited Hickam Air Force Base

#### **News Notes**

#### HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE ORI FEB. 6-14 —

Those traveling to Hickam during the Operational Readiness Inspection can expect long lines entering and exiting the base, reduced hours and degraded services. Expect high levels of security and ID checks. Call the Straight Talk line for the latest FPCON conditions: 421-4000.

Team Hickam awards -15 AW Commander Col Giovanni K. Tuck, cordially invites you to this annual event at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club, Friday, Feb. 20. Cost is \$21 per ticket for club members/\$23 non-members. Social Hour begins at 1800 and banquet at 1900. Contact unit First Sergeants for tickets or Program Facilitator MSgt Troy Bettcher at 448-6239.

 ${\bf Volunteers\ needed-The}$ DoD recognizes nine Special Observances throughout the year. The Equal Opportunity office serves as advisors and liaisons for these very significant events. We need personnel to volunteer to Chair a committee for both the Days of Remembrance/Holocaust Remembrance Day in April 2009 and for the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May 2009. Planning needs to start soon for a successful observance. Contact SSgt Morris at 449-1701 for infor-

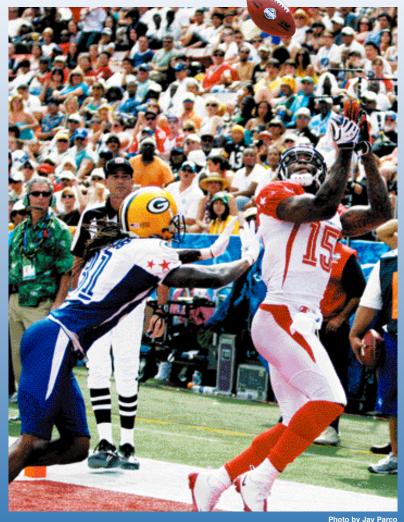
**Equal Opportunity Office** closed — The office is closed Feb. 18-20 to move to its new area in Bldg. 1113. Call 449-1701 and leave a message or call the Command Post at 448-6900 for an EO counselor.

#### Tax filing provided -

Military OneSource will be providing tax filing services for the 2008 tax season. Services will include free online tax filing services (both state and federal), and free telephonic tax consultations. Visit the Web site online at https://www.mili tarvonesource.com or e-mail William.H.Reese @militaryo nesource.com.

Learn what your partner means — The Airman and See NEWS NOTES, A6

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## **Going for the air ball**

Wide receiver Brandon Marshall of the Denver Broncos sets himself up for a catch in the end zone during Sunday's NFL Pro Bowl, when the NFC trounced the AFC 30-21. Marshall and several other NFL players also visited Hickam AFB last week and visited children here. For more photos, see page B1.

# **Instructors** ensure safety of air crews

By Tech. Sgt. Cohen Young

Defense Media Activity Hawaii News Bureau

When jumping out of a plane, just having a parachute is one thing, but knowing how to use it is another. That's when Tech Sgt. Sherwood Brown of Muscatine, Iowa, and Staff Sgt. Anthony Bittman of Long Beach, Calif., come in. They are Survival Evasion Resistance Es instructors for the 15th Airlift Wing at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, and emergency parachute training is one of the classes they teach.

Sergeant Brown, a 14year SERE specialist and Sergeant Bittman, with nine years in the harness, review previously-learned survival training procedures to include Emergency Parachute training, combat Survival Training, nonejection water survival and conduct after capture. All aircrew members are required to keep up on their continuation training at

their local bases. One would hope to never have to use their parachute, but if you should, you should know how to descend to your target area. Los Gatos, Calif., native Maj. Will Martin, a pilot with the 535th Airlift Wing, said it's among the best



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech Sgt. Cohen A. Young

Maj Will Martin, Chief of Command Post and a pilot with the 535th Airlift Squadron, 15th Airlift Wing listens as 15th Airlift Wing Survival Evasion Resistance Escape (SERE) Instructor, Tech Sqt. Sherwood Brown provides guidance on the correct way to fasten his parachute while in the harness during a virtual refresher parachute training class recently held at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii.

training he has had.

"I've never had parachute training to this caliber, said Maj. Martin." "I would say it's very effective," added Major Martin. He's been a pilot for 11 years.

Jumping out of a plane and parachuting down is not something that is done daily; therefore it is necessary to practice, "just in case." Hickam has a parachute simulator that allows aircrew members at the base to do just that. The simulator has been at the 535th Airlift Squadron for

more than three years, Sergeant Bittman said.

Sergeant Bittman said the parachute training class is taught 12 times a year, and an annual average of 72 members are trained annually.

The Air Force mission is not affected on a daily basis, but in case of an emergency it is up to the aircrew to save themselves and recall their Emergency Parachute Training we teach, Sergeant Bittman said. He added how well the crewmembers do can

See SERE, A4

# Airman goes for Ranger tab at school

By Chris Aguinaldo Hickam Kukini editor

The 15th Airlift Wing's 2008 Noncommissioned Officer of the Year is going for one of the most respected tabs in the military — that of the elite US Army Rangers.

TSgt Corey Crow of the Security Forces Squadron is in the second phase of training at US Army Ranger School, according to Lt Col Raymund Tembreull, 15th SFS commander. "We're very proud of him over here in the 'Fightin' 15th. He graduated from USAF Pre-Ranger Training last year at the top of his class.



#### **TSgt Corey Crow is at** Army Ranger School.

That is why he was awarded a Ranger school slot, a very select opportunity.'

After the recent initial phase of training TSgt Crow is "the last Air Force member left" in his current group, reported Lt Col Tembreull. "They all refer

to him as 'Air Force.' To make it to Ranger School takes fortitude and determination. Yet not everyone, though, will actually finish the intense experience, said 15 AW Command Chief Master Sergeant Thomas

Westermeyer, who completed Ranger School at Ft Benning, Ga. in 1994.

"On day one, they tell you to look to your left and your right. Those are the people that won't be here at the end." CMSgt Westermeyer said.

That's because the program which trains the light infantry, special operations members is not only grueling physically, but also mentally, he shared.

TSgt Crow is likely getting little sleep maybe an hour a day, at times. Meal deprival is also part of Ranger training, with maybe just a meal a day. It's not unusual for Ranger school attendees to have massive weight loss.

Just one example of regimen is the Ranger Assessment Phase. According to the school's description, the phase consists of a Ranger Physical Fitness Test requiring 49 pushups, 59 sit-ups, an individual 5-mile run finished in 40 minutes or less, concluding with the execution of six chin-ups.

There are three training phases over the course of 61 days, covering endurance, survival and leadership skills in the jungle, wilderness and other challenging combat conditions.

TSgt Crow's success would mean the Air Force and the 15 AW would "get someone who is highly competent in his combat leadership and everyday life," CMSgt Westermeyer added.

Hickam's Ranger hopeful would also join a very select group in the force.

"I have a roster of all the Air Force Rangers," CMSgt Westermeyer said. "As best we can tell, there's less than 200 people since 1955 that completed what TSgt Crow started."



## **CES** shows hustle

Tech. Sgt. Andrew Sana (top) and Tech. Sgt. Dedric Brown, 624th Civil Engineer Squadron, fasten a net on top of a pallet loaded with CE support equipment. 624th CES, which is part of the 624th Regional Support Group, participated in the Operational Readiness Inspection at Hickam Air Force Base this week

# 'Home Front Heroes' also serve

By Michael Hoffman Courtesy of PACAF Pixels

A hero is someone who helps others. I really enjoyed the Home Front Hero Medal ceremony. I was nervous when I went up and got my medal. It was kind of like when my dad was gone ... I helped out making sure my younger brothers went up with me because they received medals too. It has a red, white and blue ribbon and a medal with a blue star on it.

My Dad put me in for it for helping my Mom while he was deployed to the Philippines for 6 months. He told me to be the man of the house before he left, and I tried very hard to make him proud and to help my mom. He was worried when he left because my mom was pregnant. I haven't been deployed to war zones but I guess if my Mom would have had the baby at home that would be kind of like a war zone, not cool. My baby brother was born while my Dad was deployed...

I also have two other younger brothers. One is 6 and the other is 3. I had to help my mom with those guys too and that can be like a war zone. They can be pretty wild, so I get hurt



Courtesy photo

Home Front Heroes Michael Hoffman, age 10, and his brothers Matt, 6, and Mark, 3, are flanked by 15 AW Vice Commander Col Dean Wolford and Command Chief Master Sergeant Thomas Westermeyer at the recent Home Front Heroes awards ceremony at the Airman & Family Readiness Center.

once in awhile. I also had to keep up with my school work and chores. It was hard and I really missed my Dad. Six months is a very long time.

I didn't know I was a hero like my Dad. Now I know how my Dad feels when he receives his medals. I was proud, but I know it's not the same. I know my Mom and Dad are proud too. I am one of the heroes that stay home and support my Dad and help my Mom when he is gone and send him funny e-mails to keep his spirits up. This medal is cooler than any sports trophy I have, because I got it helping my Mom and Dad while he was doing his job for our coun-

Michael Hoffman, age 10, is the son of Maj. Ken Hoffman and his wife, Katie. He and his brothers — Matt, 6, Mark, 3, and John, 5 months — were recognized Jan. 23 as a "Home Front Heroes," along with children of other Airmen recently returned from deployment.

PACAF Pixels is designed to allow Airmen a cross the command to share, in a personal and authentic way, their service experiences. Go online at www.pacafpixels.com.

# DoD: Try quitting 'the dip'

In a month-long initiative to promote the Great American Spit Out (GASpO) on Feb. 19, and Through With Chew Week, Feb. 15-21, the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and TRICARE are deploying all the weapons in their arsenals. The target of the attack is the smokeless — but far from harmless — spit or chewing tobacco, often simply referred to as "dip."

The operation will kick off at the DoD tobacco cessation Web site, http://www.ucan quit2.org, the online headquarters of the multi-year campaign, "Quit Tobacco-Make Everyone Proud." Beginning Feb. 1, military installations can register their GASpO event at http://www.ucanquit2.org/fact s/gaspo/default.aspx to alert the military community and those in the local area of their participation in the Great American Spit Out.

The Web site offers an innovative array of high-tech mechanisms and interactive tools to help service members follow through with their plans to quit.

Visit www.ucanquit2.org.

Submitted by the Quit Tobacco campaign.

### **Diamond Tips**

Shirt sleeves — BDU shirt sleeves may be rolled up with material matching the shirts and touching or coming within one inch of the forearm when bent at a 90-degree angle.

Questions? Contact your First Sergeant

How to reach us





Deadline for article submission is end of day Friday for next Friday's issue. Copy must be typed, double-spaced 12-point type, 300-500 words in length, and e-mailed to caguinal@honolulu.gannett.com.

The Hickam Kukini is published by The Honolulu Advertiser, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 15th Airlift Wing. This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Content of the Hickam Kukini does not necessarily represent the official views of, or endorsement by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, or Honolulu Advertiser of the products of services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs office of Hickam AFB, Hawaii. All photographs are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. Correspondence may be sent to 15thAW/PAI, 800 Scott Circle, Hickam AFB, H196853-5328.

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Crisis Response lines         449-0300           Hickam Family Support Center         449-0130           Life Skills Support Center         449-0175           Law Enforcement Desk         449-6373           Base Chaplain         449-1754           Military Family Abuse Shelter         533-7125

Kukini: Meaning swift and valued messenger, the Kukini in ancient times took news from one Hawaiian leader to another.

# Friday nights, flashing lights and making the right choices

By 1st Lt. Frank Hartnett 354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

EIELSON AIR FORCE, Alaska — We all understand that drunk driving is illegal, dangerous and incompatible with the expectations of being an Airman. Usually, when we discuss drunk driving, we talk about evenings that went wrong or people who injured or killed others because of poor and selfish decisions.

I want to tell a different story. The story is from personal experience and shows what happens when you exercise good judgment.

Recently, I volunteered to be the designated driver for my friends as we drove into town. The night started out well; we danced to a local band that we had seen in the nightlife listing of the paper. It was a typical Friday night and one where normally we all might have had a drink or two, figuring I could have one and be fine to drive. With the icy roads, however, I decided to take extra precautions and stuck with water.

It was a little past one in the morning

when we moved on home. The radio was on and we were talking about the band and laughing about the night as I approached a four-way intersection, waited for the light and made a left turn.

As I headed down the highway I saw flashing red and blue lights in my rearview mirror. Immediately my pulse spiked and I wondered if I had been speeding or missed a sign. The officer had explained that he had pulled me over because my vehicle had only one license plate. Vehicles registered in Alaska require a plate on the front and rear; my car is registered in Pennsylvania which requires only one plate. This explanation brought a sigh of relief because I knew I had no reason to

That relief died with his next words. "Sir, I can smell alcohol coming from your car. Please step out of the vehicle for a field sobriety test."

be ticketed.

It's strange, but even when you know you have done the right thing it is nervewracking to be under the scrutiny of the law. As I stood outside my car, I listened closely to the trooper's instructions and wondered if any errors I made might be enough to complicate the situation. I can't imagine how much more terrifying that test would have been if I had been drinking at all, even just one, that night. It's an easy thing to do but it's a risk I'll never take again.

I passed the test because I made the right decision earlier that night and stuck with it. As I continued on home, I thought what would have happened if I hadn't made a good decision. I thought of the disappointment I would be to my friends, family and co-workers. I imagined the crushing sense of shame for failing to serve as a good example to my subordinates. Not to mention the lives I would have put at risk if I was drunk behind the wheel.

I'm not looking for a pat on the back by telling you this. Being suspected was intimidating under the best circumstances and I hope that sharing my experience will help you to remember the importance of sticking with good decisions.

# Learn to dispel misperceptions about alcohol at Hickam event

By Marisela Jimenez
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws
program coordinator

There's a whole litany of misperceptions about drinking and the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws program would like to help sort through those myths.

A Social Norms Seminar is scheduled on Tuesday, Feb. 24 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center, Maui Room. Free food and nonalcoholic beverages will be provided.

Speakers include Dr. Catherine
Sorensen from the Department of Health
covering Fetal Alcohol Spectrum
Disorder; Leah Marx, director for
Mothers Against Drunk Driving, who
will present an overview of Hawaii's
laws from a safety approach; and Kevin
Schmidt, Enforcing Underage Drinking

Laws Project Manager, who will present the "Social Norms Approach" to clear the misconceptions about human behavior

Perhaps it is common to think that alcohol use is a normal part of our culture. For example, it seems alcohol is often at parties and celebrations.

Yet perceptions about alcohol are seldom clear. Take TV and movies, which often depict drinking as fun, glamorous, and sexy while also reminding viewers to drink responsibly.

But what does it mean to drink responsibly? Is it common for people to drink with the intention to getting

According to research, many people think that drinking is a common practice in our society. This is a misperception.

But what causes this gap between perception and reality? People may myopi-

cally make their impressions of peers based on limited information. They do not know each other's habits as well as they think, and often rely on impressions gleaned from behavior that gains the most attention — like behavior that is generally negative.

Social norms grow out of social value; they serve to differentiate human social behavior from that of other individuals. For example, Hickam AFB has its own outlined and acceptable behaviors. Hence, norms generally are the rules and regulations that groups live by.

This Social Norms Seminar will teach and equip attendees with skills to help you understand your peers and your own behavior.

For information about the seminar and to confirm attendance, contact Marisela Jimenez (Doyle) at marisela. doyle@us.army.mil or call 218-8492.

# **AMC Commander makes visit to Hickam AFB**

**By Lt Col Ryan Marshall** Director of Staff, 515th Air Mobility Operations Wing

Following a very successful trip to four of his 15 major Pacific en route locations which included his participation in Operation DEEP FREEZE missions, Air Mobility Command's (AMC) Commander, Gen Arthur Lichte, returned to his Headquarters at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

This was his first trip to the Pacific since AMC activated its first overseas wing. The 515th Air Mobility Operations Wing (AMOW) activated on 5 June 2008 at Hickam Air Force Base to support AMC aircraft and crews with maintenance, aerial port, and command and control operations while transiting the Pacific.

Gen Lichte's visit reinforced the important role of



Photo by Vanessa Perez

TSgt Scott Lockwood briefs General Lichte on the aeromedical mission applications of the 735 AMS highlift truck while SrA Tyrone Richards simulates the patient load via wheelchair during a visit to Hickam AFB last week.

AMC's mission and highlighted its strategic value and its contributions within the Pacific theater. With AMC's support, mobility aircraft have demonstrated their ability to deliver supplies and personnel anywhere in the world while continuing to project airpower through its deterrence mission.

During an interview at Andersen Air Force Base on this visit, Gen Lichte stated, "Whether it's a tanker passing precious fuel to fighters and bombers sending deterrence signals to those who wish us ill, or whether it's a tanker passing gas to a C-17 taking a aero medical evacuated person back home or an airlifter passing through carrying routine cargo and providing an opportunity for Space-A travelers to get here, it all adds up."

In the Pacific, AMC
Airmen work alongside their
Pacific Air Forces counterparts to provide the full spectrum of mobility operations
to the joint warfighter.
During his visit, General
Lichte met with Airmen from
his air mobility squadrons
and Airmen from their host
wings who work together to
meet mission objectives.

Worldwide, AMC launches a sortie approximately once every 90 seconds delivering more than 2,000 tons of cargo and more than 6,000 passengers every day. In CY08, the 515 AMOW moved nearly 300,000 passengers and over 95,000 tons of cargo in the Pacific. "Somewhere in the world, that big AMC tail flash is doing what we want it to do and that's bringing hope to people around the world and saving lives every day," he remarked earlier in Guam.

Whether delivering critical life-saving supplies through humanitarian relief missions to victims of an earthquake or tsunami or supporting fighters and bombers in an exercise or contingency operation, AMC's role has a worldwide impact. "Pushing pallets of cargo and processing people doesn't seem very glamorous, but when you step back and realize the impact that they're having or what that cargo might be .. it's amazing," the General continued.

# Record of Decision signed on beddown of fighters

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Air Force officials have decided to bed down 59 F-35 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft and to allow associated construction at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., to begin, implementing a BRAC 2005 decision. The decision also imposes temporary operational limitations on JSF flight training activities both to avoid and to minimize noise impacts.

This decision requires a supplemental environmental analysis be conducted to study operational alternatives and



Photo courtesy of Lockheed Mar

Air Force officials have decided to bed down 59 F-35 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft and to allow associated construction to begin at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

noise mitigations for the 59 aircraft authorized to be delivered under this decision. The analysis is scheduled for completion in September 2010.

"The Air Force has heard the communities' concerns and is taking them seriously," said Kathleen Ferguson, deputy assistant secretary for installations. "We are undertaking the supplemental analysis to evaluate alternatives to operating the F-35 as well as ways to mitigate the noise.

"As we move forward," she said, "the Air Force is committed to an open, transparent process to address and resolve beddown issues for the Joint Strike Fighter. We will ensure affected communities are involved through public scoping meetings, know what to expect, and understand time-

lines for development. A decision on whether to bed down additional aircraft will be deferred until completion of the subsequent environmental analysis."

This decision allows for construction of facilities for the Joint Strike Fighter Integrated Joint Training Site, which includes instructor pilots, operations and maintenance support personnel, front-line and instructor qualified maintenance technicians and logistics support personnel.

The 59 aircraft provide an

initial capability of one squadron each for the Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps. The first aircraft is scheduled to arrive in March 2010 and the aircraft would arrivr through 2014.

It is anticipated that with the arrival of the 7th Special Forces Group and additional F-35 related activities there will be an increase of approximately 4,000 personnel and more than 6,000 dependents.

Military construction is expected to bring another \$700 million to the area.

### **SERE**, From A1



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech Sgt. Cohen A. Young 15th Airlift Wing Survival Evasion Resistance Escape (SERE) Instructor Staff Sgt. Anthony Bittman reviews proper procedures when pulling the rip cord of the simulator parachute with Maj Will Martin, a pilot with the 535th Airlift Squadron, 15th Airlift Wing.

prevent injury on the parachute-landing fall by avoiding powerlines, trees, rough land and hostile territory.

All-in- all, the training ensures our aircrews are

able to land safely and be able to get back into the fight should something unfortunate occur while ensuring the stability of the Pacific Region, he said.



## A simulated chemical reaction

Those driving by the 15th Airlift Wing Headquarters building on Sunday evening witnessed the quick response of Hickam's emergency personnel. As part of this week's Operational Readiness Inspection, 15 AW HQ was the target of a simulated chemical incident, which necessitated hazmat/decon procedures.



## Theft of unsecured personal property

An Active Duty E-7 assigned to 17 OWS reported a theft of personal property on Ohana Nui Circle Street. This case is currently under investigation.

## Theft of unsecured personal property

An Active Duty E-5 assigned to PACAF reported a theft of personal property on Fox Boulevard. This case is currently under investigation.

## Damage of government property

An Active Duty O-2 assigned to 15 AW reported damage of government property from Bldg. 1856/King Hall.

This case is currently under investigation.

#### Citation total for Jan. 26-Feb. 1

2 DD Form 2504/Abandoned Vehicle Notice

11 DD Form 1805/Civilian Traffic citation

20 DD Form 1408/Moving Traffic citation

4 DD Form 1408/Non-Moving Traffic

## **Culture to be celebrated**

Hickam AFB Main Chapel

#### African-American Heritage Association

African American History Month is being commemorated at Hickam AFB with several events courtesy of the African-American Heritage Association:

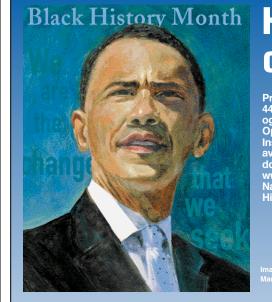
• Taste of Soul will be held on Saturday, Feb. 21 at the Hickam AFB Main Chapel (next to Shoppette) starting at 6 p.m. Submit your Southern recipes by contacting Staff Sergeant Taveya Murphy at 448-3432, no later than Feb 18. All ingredients must be purchased from the commissary. Entries will be in the main, side, and dessert dish categories. This is a free event and will be held in conjunction with the Gospel Fest. • The Gospel Fest is on

Saturday, Feb. 21 at the

- starting at 6 p.m. Come out and enjoy music, singing, and dancing from our local churches. This event will be held in conjunction with the annual "Taste of Soul." Contact Master Sergeant Ben Jefferson at 449-8840 if there are any questions.
- The annual Black History Month Luncheon will be held on Friday, Feb. 27 11 a.m. at the Hickam AFB Officer's Club Lanai. Guest Speaker will be Tuskegee Airman, author, and historian Lt Col Alex Jefferson (ret). There will also be a special dance performance by a local West African dance group, "Sewa Fare." Please contact Staff Sergeant Taveya Murphy at 448-3432, Master Sergeant Anthony Roane at 449-5464, or Master Sergeant Ben

Jefferson at 449-8840 for tickets.

• The African-American Heritage Association 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament is a free event and membership drive on Saturday, Feb. 28 at the outdoor courts next to the base Dining Facility from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. It's open to all active duty, dependents, reserve, and guard personnel. There will be food, beverages, music, prizes and more. For information or to sign up a team, call Master Sergeant Anthony Roane at 449-5464, or Master Sergeant Erick Harrington at 448-2207.



# Hail to the chief

President Barack Obama, the 44th commander in chief, is recognized by the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute in an original artwork available for download. To download the artwork, visit www.deomi.org. February is National African-American History Month.

Image courtesy Defense Equal Opportunity

## **ROUND THE AIR FORCE**

#### **Deployment history** to be removed from promotion briefs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — Air Force officials here recently announced that deployment history data will be deleted from duty qualification briefs for officer selection and preselection and from senior noncommissioned officer evaluation briefs.

This total-force initiative will apply to all active-duty members, Reserve and Guard personnel.

The deployment data will be removed from senior NCO evaluation briefs with the Feb. 2009 senior master sergeant promotion board. It will also be removed from the June 2009 lieutenant colonel (line of the Air Force) and medical service corps promotion boards when the system modifications are complete. For the Reserve, the change will go into effect with the April 2009 (chaplain, line of the Air Force judge advocate general) major and lieutenant colonel board. For the Guard, the change will occur with the colonel's Federal Recognition Review Board that convenes in March

Call the Air Force Contact Center at 800-616-3775.

#### Deadline for master's program

WRIGHT-PATTERSON

AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) - The Air Command and Staff College is offering a distance learning master's program in Military Operational Art and Science for a select number of civilians and military members. The application deadline for the program is Feb. 20.

The degree consists of 33 semester hours, broken down into 11 courses, which take two years to complete. The entire program is free, except for book and supply costs. Eligible candidates in the grades of GS-12 and GS-13, as well as Pay Band 2, can apply to the program through the Air Force Personnel Center using the one-page AF Form 4059. Once you've obtained the required signatures, scan the form and email it back to the global group box "AFPC/DPIF Leadership program" (afpc.dpi.ldrshpdev@randolph.af.mil). There are 150 slots open to Civil Service employees this

The program is fully accredited and graduates will receive the same degree as those individuals who complete the one-year resident course. Courses include Leadership in Warfare, Joint Air Operations, Applied Warfare Studies, and Practice of Command. Upon completion graduates also will earn credit in Intermediate Development Education and Joint Professional Military

Education (phase I).

The program is also designed to help Civil Service employees better understand and support the Air Force's Expeditionary Force. Mr. Joe Gyenes, of the Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command Directorate of Manpower, Personnel and Services, said this program is "highly regarded by AF senior leadership and presents a tremendous opportunity for eligible civilians" for advancement and education.

Military members who are at least an lieutenant colonel selectee, including Air National Guard and Air Reserve Technicians, may apply as well. Application procedures, as well as deadlines, may be obtained from www.au.af.mil./au/dlapplication.asp.

A bachelor's degree is a prerequisite. People who have completed both a master's degree and intermediate development education are not eligible for admis-

Contact AFPC/DPIFA at DSN 665-2524 (210-565-2524), contact your functional career field team at AFPC or visit ACSC's

homepage online at www.au.af.mil/au/acsc.

#### Military participates in Aero India 09

(AFNS) — The US military will be represented at the Aero India 09 air show at Air Force Station Yelahanka in Bangalore, India, Feb. 11 to 15.

A cross-section of military aircraft and equipment will be present, including the C-17 Globemaster III, C-130J Hercules, F-16 Fighting Falcon, KC-135 Stratotanker, F/A-18 Hornet and Eagle Vision Ground Satellite System.

Aero India is one of Asia's premier aerial events. This year, the government of India expects 592 exhibitors from 25 countries to participate in the show.

Through participation in air shows and other regional events, the United States is able to demonstrate its commitment to the security of the Asia-Pacific region, promote the standardization and interoperability of equipment, and display capabilities critical to the success of current and future military operations.

**NEWS NOTES, From A1** -

Family Readiness Flight will be hosting a Couples Communications - True Colors lunch and learn workshop on Feb. 18 from 1100-1230. If you are often mystified by the things your partner does and says, join us and discover your "True Colors." This class will offer strategies in learning how to better understand vourself. value the differences in your partner, enhance communications and bring harmony to your relationship. To register, call 449-0300.

Remember OPSEC -Please keep Operations Security in mind at all times. Shred info when no longer needed. Use caution when discussing information openly. Increase use of secure phones. When in doubt, use secure communication - anything on NIPR can be viewed. If required to leave, secure allclassified information. DO NOT confirm or deny critical information. Direct all media questions to 15 AW/PA 449-

Clinic hours - Patients and visitor should anticipate

extended wait times, a reduction in services and potential appointment cancellations until Feb. 13 due to the ORI. The clinic will be closed on Feb. 16

for Presidents Day. Contact

Capt Justin Eder at 449-2068.

**Hickam Finance Office closed** — The 15 CPTS will be closed until Feb. 13 due to the ORI. If there is an absolute Travel/MilPay emergency contact 1Lt Terrence Wilson at 449-0331 or MSgt Karen Myers at 449-0350.

Fitness Center hours Fitness & Sports Center hours of operation during the ORI are 0430-1830. Normal hours resume after the ORI. Call the

Fitness Center at 448-2214.

Pass office staffing — Due to the ORI, the Pass & Registration office will be at minimum manning. Contractor Passes/Agent Cards and Agent Cards will be issued from 0830-1145, and Decals & Restricted Area Badges will be issued from 1300-1545. Expect extended wait times. Call MSgt Veeder and Mr. Dietrick Glover at 449-6563.